

"IF A MAN

Can preach a better sermon, write a better book or make a better mousetrap than his neighbor, though he build his house in the woods, the world will make a beaten path to his door."—Emerson.

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Would Bust Meat Trust With Oysters

Spokane, Wash., Mar. 6.—Refer station, irrigation, reclamation, dry farming and other matters of importance to the development of the Pacific Northwest have been cast aside for the nonce by State Senator Harry Rosenhaupt of Spokane, who would "bust" the "meat trust" by feeding the people on fresh bivalves, produced at bargain counter prices on the natural oyster beds owned by the state of Washington. Here is his argument:

"The state owns 15,713 acres of the finest oyster beds in the world, but as at present these lands are producing practically nothing. The state has permitted the policy of dealing with them to be dictated by the owners of private oyster lands, who, by keeping the state lands out of the field of competition, monopolize the output and 'boost' prices to a point where oysters are a luxury which can be enjoyed only by the comparatively wealthy.

"Few people have any idea of the tremendous productivity of first-class oyster lands. The latest statistics I have at hand for Washington are for 1906 and they show that 500 acres of Puget Sound oyster beds produced native oysters to the value of \$100,000, an average of \$200 to the acre; that 40 acres of Puget Sound beds produced \$80,000 worth of east-

ern oysters; that 1,000 acres of Willapa harbor lands produced \$200,000 worth of native oysters, and 150 acres produced \$200,000 worth of eastern oysters. These figures show only averages. The maximum production of the better class of lands must be much higher.

"The best oyster lands in Washington belong to the state. These are the so-called 'natural' oyster beds, where oysters grow without artificial planting or corals, and were reserved by the constitution and subsequent legislation from ever being sold. They have been cared for and protected by the state, but used only for supplying seed oysters with which to plant the artificial oyster beds owned by private individuals.

"The ridiculous feature of this policy becomes apparent when attention is drawn to the fact that the great acreage of oyster lands are policed and protected at the expense of the state for no other purpose than to supply to private individuals with which to seed 1,000 acres of privately owned oyster lands of poorer grade than the state lands supplying the seed.

"This policy on the part of the state could lead to but one end, and that is to enable the owners of private lands to curtail the oyster industry, limit production, combine together and fix prices at an artificially high price."

Coal Mines Cause of Amazing Human Waste

There is a bill now before the congress of the United States which aims at "conservation" in a very important sense of that important word,—the sense here implied being the conservation of the lives of four thousand men who in a short twelve-month enter the toll of death in the coal mines of the United States, and of the additional seven thousand who are maimed and crippled in the same hazardous occupation every year.

Today half a million men are braving the dangers and uncertainties of the underground in bringing from the depths of the earth the materials upon which rest our welfare and prosperity, and also in great part our pleasures and comforts,—with the approach of evening about thirty will have dropped from the ranks of these deserving toilers,—thirty, in just one day, of whom twelve have perished, with twenty others more or less seriously mangled in the same accidents which will have destroyed their fellow-workers.

The bill which is expected to prepare the way for a great lessening of these disasters, which is expected to so direct intelligent government investigation as to largely avoid a repetition of fateful Cherry, Primero, Marlanna, Monongah, Ziegler, Blue Lick, etc., with their ghastly death-rolls of hundreds, is H. R. 13915, providing for the establishment of a bureau of mines. On January 25th it passed the house by a large vote, and is now before the senate. One of the distinct features of this bill is "to make diligent investigation of the methods of mining, the safety of miners, the possible improvement of conditions under which mining operations are carried on, the use of explosives and electricity, the prevention of accidents, etc."

Notwithstanding there has been a large increase in production of coal steady decrease from 150 per thousand men, in 1891, to 129 per 1,000 in 1906; the average for the year 1895 to 1906, both inclusive, was 132 per thousand men employed.

In Prussia there was a steady decrease from 266 per thousand in 1861 to 180 in 1904.

In France, where the mines are usually deep and very difficult of operation, the following figures show the remarkable low loss of life:

Number of Men Killed per 1,000 Employed in Coal Mines of France:

In 1901 1.02
In 190295
In 190386
In 190489
In 190584

On comparing the average death rates from accidents in coal mines for each 1,000 men employed, in different countries, the full significance of the figures already given may be seen:

for Each 1,000 Employed—Averages for Five Years.

France (1901-1905) 0.91
Belgium (1902-1906) 1.00
Great Britain (1902-1906) 1.28
Prussia (1900-1904) 2.06
United States (1902-1906) 3.39

Another comparison will establish the greater loss of life in America:

Number of Men Killed in Coal Mines for Each Million Tons of Coal Produced in United States and Foreign Countries—Averages for Five Years

Great Britain (1902-1906) 4.51
France (1901-1905) 4.58
Belgium (1902-1906) 5.35
United States (1902-1906) 6.04

The United States is the only country showing a steady increase, which is haunting evidence that we have done so little to protect the lives of this deserving class of toilers. True, we have within the past two years directed a little investigation into the causes of mine accidents and means for their prevention, but the scope of the work as well as the federal appropriations for the same have been hopelessly inadequate.

To what degree legislation can be depended upon to lessen and solve the dangers now involved in coal mining is an important question. Certain it is that foreign nations, through wise and judicious government investigation, have greatly decreased the loss of life, and there is no valid reason why America should not keep to the

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forrest in this humanitarian work. Before another four thousand men are sacrificed to ignorance, negligence and culpable indifference, congress should without delay pass this bill and enact a bureau of mines so that an adequate investigation of this important problem might be started.

The following figures show the increase in fatalities since 1890:

Total number of fatal accidents in

1890 701
1891 701
1892 1,493
1893 1,594
1894 1,891
1895 1,794
1896 2,175
1897 2,092
1907 3,125

Actual figures for 1908 and 1909 are not yet available, yet they show corresponding increases. During the last ten years the mortality from this source reaches the amazing total of about 25,000 men.

The great increase in the production of coal for this period or the increase in the number of men employed, does not account for the increase in mortality, as the following figures show:

Number of Men Killed per 1,000 Employed in Coal Mines of U. S.

In 1895 2.67
In 1896 2.79
In 1897 2.34
In 1898 2.59
In 1899 2.98
In 1900 3.24
In 1901 3.49
In 1902 3.14
In 1903 3.38
In 1904 3.53
In 1905 3.40
In 1906 4.79

Comparison With European Countries. In all of the European coal-producing countries, the output of coal has increased greatly during the past ten years, but the number of deaths per 1,000 miners, instead of increasing as in this country, has undergone a marked and decided decrease. This decrease has been due to the effect of mining legislation in those countries for the safeguarding and protection of the lives of the workmen.

The decrease in Belgium, for instance, is shown in the following table:

Number of Men Killed per 1,000 Employed in Coal Mines of Belgium:

In 1895 1.40
In 1900 1.05
In 190493
In 190591
In 190694

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RUCKER KNOWS AGUINALDO.

The true story of Aguinaldo's connection with the Philippine insurrection, the motives that prompted him to lead the insurrection, and his connection with the events that followed have never been told," said Representative A. W. Rucker of Colorado at the Willard. "While in the Philippines in October I had a long talk with Aguinaldo and he related to me the details. He told me this in confidence and I have since then made efforts to induce him to relieve me from the secrecy to which he pledged me. If I succeed in getting his permission to tell the story I think it will place Aguinaldo in a new and much more favorable light, and the facts will be a revelation to the country. Aguinaldo is an unusual man. He has retired permanently from politics and is living the life of a prosperous farmer. He has a fine hacienda not far from Cavite.

"With an attaché of the governor's office I drove to his house in an automobile. He was not at home, but I was received by his mother. Some time ago Aguinaldo's wife deserted him and his mother is now keeping house for him. I was conducted to the place where Aguinaldo was at work by his son. It was off the road, and when we stopped our automobile so that we could walk to where Aguinaldo was a big crowd of natives surrounded our machine. Somehow the word had gone abroad that we were abducting the boy, and for a time it appeared that the natives were considering violence. But when Aguinaldo came to us all was explained. He agreed to follow us to Manila, and

there I had a long talk with the former Filipino leader. He is a very intelligent man, mild in manner, and entertaining. He told me he wants nothing else but to be let alone, to carry on his work. I understand that he is in a very comfortable circumstance. "Aguinaldo did not profit any from the insurrection. His estate was inherited. I was much impressed by the man, and if he will give me permission to tell the facts of his connection with the trouble out there it will I am sure, astonish every one." Judge Rucker spent several months in the Philippines last year. He is a member of the committee on Insular Affairs of the house—Washington Post.

Exactly.
"My hair's exactly like a turban, isn't it?"
"Exactly. You can even take it off."
—UK.

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SAYS COUNTERFEIT QUARTERS ARE SLUGS

Salt Lake, March 12.—Linden Watson, who was arrested in Colton Thursday morning on a charge of counterfeiting, was arraigned this morning before United States Commissioner Charles Baldwin and after waiving his preliminary hearing was

DRISKELL HEARING SLATED FOR MONDAY

Salt Lake, March 12.—The trial of L. E. Driskell, confessed slayer of Policeman C. C. Riley on October 5 last, will be commenced on Monday morning. The state is now preparing for this and will be ready with many witnesses. Though the case of Arthur Brown is adjourned for Monday,

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bound over to await the action of the grand jury. His bonds were fixed at \$1,000, which he was unable to furnish, and he was remanded to the county jail.

Watson, who is a mere boy, was arrested by Sheriff George T. Judd, of Utah county and a search of his clothing uncovered several molds and some counterfeit quarter pieces. He stated that the pieces he had made were slugs for slot machines. Some of them were fairly well made and the eagles showed up clearly, so that the "slug" story is not given much credence.

it is believed that the technical objections against the complaint will prevail and that Brown will again go free for the time.

Driskell's trial promises to be of more than usual interest. A large number of new witnesses has been rounded up by the state and the confessions made by the homicide to the city police will be under fire. The state will attempt to make use of these and the attempt will be bitterly opposed by Driskell's attorneys.

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Experience Not Necessary.
"I believe I'll open a dramatic school," said the seedy-looking man.
"Why? You never have been on the stage, have you?" asked the preacher.
"No."
"Then how do you expect to be able to teach people to act?"
"It's simple enough. You're teach-

ing people how to be angels, aren't you? Have you ever been in heaven?"—Chicago Record-Herald.
The Boy Critic.
Richard Croker, at an open-air luncheon at Palm Beach told a George Washington story.
"A teacher," he began, "was conducting a lesson in history.

"Tommy Jones," she said, "what was there about George Washington which distinguished him from all other Americans?"
"He didn't lie," was the prompt answer.—Washington Star.
The diagonal weave for spring is varied with novelty Jacquard and stripes being very smart.

THIEF JUMPED INTO SALTON SEA

Los Angeles, Cal., March 12.—Passengers arriving here today from Yuma on a Southern Pacific train minus watches and other valuables, which are believed to be at the bottom of Salton sea, together with the body of a robber who drowned himself rather than submit to arrest.

William Derrickson, a mining man of Arizona, who surprised the thief

BLEACHED FLOUR CASES DISMISSED

Council Bluffs, Iowa, March 12.—What are known as the "bleached flour" cases were dismissed in the federal court here today by Pierce Butler, special counsel for the government. Four seizures of flour belonging to the Urdike Milling company of

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while he was rifling the clothing of the sleeping passengers, told of the adventure. The man was subdued with the aid of the Pullman crew, said Derrickson. While the train was passing over the Salton trestle the prisoner smashed a window and leaped into the water. The train was stopped and bucked to the spot, but no trace of the man could be found.

LARAMIE'S POSTMASTER.

Washington, March 12.—The President today sent to the senate the nomination of Elmer T. Belts to be postmaster at Laramie, Wyo.

Omaha and the Shawnee Milling company of Topeka were involved.

TOO OLD TO WORK, SO HE KILLED HIMSELF

Chicago, March 12.—Silas I. Tuniso, 67 years old, a bookkeeper, killed himself today by slashing his throat with a razor.

"I was getting too old to work," gasped the dying man.

The new embroidered foulards are especially for gowns to be made with a pleum or overskirt.

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